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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                   |   |   |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Applicant         | : | Reto Lerf   |
| Int'l Appl. No.   | : | PCT/EP03/05586  |
| Int'l Filing Date | : | May 27, 2003  |
| For               | : | OPEN-PORED METAL<br>COATING FOR JOINT<br>REPLACEMENT IMPLANTS<br>AND METHOD FOR<br>PRODUCTION THEREOF |
| Examiner          | : | Unassigned  |
| Group Art Unit    | : | Unassigned  |

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop: PCT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified US National Phase Application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.